

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE Funding for WIN Membership

Latent Print Section

The Latent Print Section of the crime laboratory in Missoula:

- processes latent prints, footwear prints, tire track and other impression evidence for law enforcement,
- assists law enforcement with crime scene processing and reconstruction, and
- trains law enforcement officers in the collection, processing, preservation and submission of evidence.

Western Identification Network

Montana belongs to the Western Identification Network (WIN), a group of nine western states and federal agencies that maintain latent fingerprint databases. When the Montana lab gets an unknown print from a crime scene, that print is compared to the WIN database to search for a match. There are more than 30 million prints in the network.

In 2000, the Montana lab got instrumentation that allows it to query WIN. When the crime lab joined WIN in 2000, it purchased WIN membership until 2007. The lab now seeks \$7,000 per year to continue its membership.

Funding

	FY 08	FY 09
WIN Membership	\$7,000	\$7,000